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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

7 FEBRUARY 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Gang Shooting Leaves Man, 45, Dead, Second Victim Wounded

(U) Two men shot a 45-year-old man to death and wounded a 60-year-old man Sunday morning during a gang-related shooting in the Central-Alameda community of Los Angeles, authorities said. The two victims were standing on a sidewalk at about 2:15 a.m. on Alba Street when they were approached by two suspects who fired shots at them, according to the Los Angeles Police Department's media relations division. The suspects fled the scene in an unspecified vehicle. The 45-year-old man was pronounced dead at the scene. Paramedics rushed the 60- year-old man to a hospital, where he was listed in stable condition.

SOURCE: 6 February 2022, Patch

(U) Oroville - Seattle Mother Identified as Victim Killed in Mass Shooting on Bus

(U) Karin Dalton, 43, from Seattle, has been identified as the person fatally shot inside a Greyhound bus in Northern California by a 21-year-old man who was acting erratically. Four others were wounded, including the woman's 11-year-old daughter, authorities and her family said Friday. Dalton died at the scene of the shooting, where the bus stopped at a convenience store, according to Butte County Sheriff's officials. Asaahdi Coleman, of Sacramento, started shooting at passengers as they exited the LA-bound bus during a scheduled stop. Coleman fled the bus and was arrested, naked, inside a Walmart after getting into a fight with a customer.

SOURCE: 5 February 2022, ABC News

(U) Riverside – Man Arrested After Police Find 7,000 Suspected Fentanyl Pills

(U) Benjamin Mendoza, 36, was arrested after he was found with packages containing thousands of suspected fentanyl pills during a traffic stop, police said. A search warrant was served at Mendoza's home and two more packages of the pills were found, police said. In total, about 7,000 suspected synthetic fentanyl pills were seized. Mendoza was arrested Tuesday, 1 February, on suspicion of possession of illegal narcotics with the intent to sell.

SOURCE: 5 February 2022, Press Enterprise

(U) Riverside – Former Government Employee Sentenced for COVID-19 Relief Fraud

(U) A former California Employment Development Department (EDD) employee was sentenced today to 63-months in federal prison for causing nearly 200 fraudulent COVID-related unemployment relief claims to be filed in other people's names, resulting in nearly \$4.3 million in ill-gotten gains. The individual previously worked at EDD as a disability insurance program representative. She resigned in March 2002 after admitting to fraudulently authorizing and paying disability benefits administered by EDD. She was sentenced to 37-months in federal prison in connection with that scheme.

SOURCE: 4 February 2022, US DOJ

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(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico - Son of Journalist Shot, Killed in Front of His Home

(U) Tijuana – Marcos Ernesto Islas Flores, the son of a journalist, was shot to death early Sunday in Tijuana, the latest high-profile killing in a border city where the dangers of news reporting are in the spotlight after two journalists were fatally shot last month. Authorities arrested a 25-year-old suspect, according to the Baja California State Attorney General's Office. Presently, it is unclear if the murder of Flores is connected to his father's journalism work. Since 2000, 148 journalists have been murdered in Mexico, according to human rights group Article 19. Mexico has long been considered the most dangerous country in the world for journalists outside active war zones.

SOURCE: 6 February 2022, San Diego Union Tribune

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Arizona - FBI Task Force Target Violent Hybrid Gang

(U) Tucson – A joint investigation into a violent street gang led to search warrants in 11 locations in Pima and Santa Cruz counties, resulting in the seizure of counterfeit opioid pills that contained fentanyl, 20 weapons, and bulk cash. According to FBI, the arrested individuals formed a hybrid gang--an unconventional criminal gang inasmuch they do not identify with a particular color, iconography, or claimed territory. The members arrested in the operation were responsible for shootings, robberies, and assaults throughout the community.

SOURCE: 4 February 2022, KVOA News

(U) District of Columbia – US Border Patrol Struggling to Seize Even Five-Percent of Fentanyl

(U) Washington – Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is struggling to seize even five-percent of the fentanyl coming across the border. Testifying before the House at an unofficial hearing on 1 February, Brandon Judd, president of the National Border Patrol Council, said, "150 miles of border normally take about 75-to-90 agents, we had four agents out there." According to CBP data, in the 2022 fiscal year so far, border agents have seized 2,707-pounds of fentanyl; in 2021, the amount was 11,201-pounds. Roughly two milligrams is fatal.

SOURCE: 6 February 2022, Newsmax

(U) District of Columbia – Afghan Terror Attack That Killed 13 US Service Members Was 'Not Preventable'

(U) Washington – The Pentagon has concluded that the August 2021 suicide bombing in Kabul, Afghanistan, that killed 13 US service members and more than 170 Afghans during the frantic evacuation near the US embassy was "not preventable." "Based on our investigation at the tactical level, this was not preventable," General Lance Curtis told reporters at a briefing Friday. "And the leaders on the ground followed the proper measures. And any time there was an imminent threat warning they followed the proper procedures: they lowered their profile, they sought cover, and, at times, they even ceased operations at the gate."

SOURCE: 6 February 2022, Fox News

(U) Kansas - Bomb Threat Called into Veterans' Hospital; Building Cleared by Officers

(U) Wichita – A bomb hoax Friday at Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center disrupted services for nearly two hours before local and federal officials gave the all-clear, a medical center spokesperson said. The bomb threat was called in at 12:22 p.m. Wichita police and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearm (ATF) K-9 units checked the building and cleared staff and patients for re-entry at 2:30 p.m.

SOURCE: 4 February 2022, Kansas News

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(U) South Carolina – 20 People Arrested for Using Drones to Smuggle Contraband into Prison

(U) Bishopville – An eight-month investigation at a South Carolina prison has resulted in the confiscation of more than 100-pounds of contraband and 20 arrests. The Lee County Sheriff's Office opened a probe into "frequent nighttime drone assaults" at the Lee Correctional Institution in Bishopville in May 2021. Since then, officials have seized an estimated 100-pounds of tobacco, 13-pounds of marijuana, 843-grams of methamphetamines, 114-grams of crack cocaine, 49-grams of cocaine, 12-drones, three-guns, two-knives, 25-cellphones, and \$6,393 in cash. Authorities also discovered abandoned drones in the woods near the prison's fences that contained about 100-grams of meth and five-pounds of tobacco. SOURCE: 4 February 2022, Associated Press

(U) Tennessee - Church Evacuated Following a 'Faulty' Bomb Threat

(U) Nashville – Police were called to investigate at a Nashville church after a suspicious package was found in the parking lot Sunday morning. Officials said a suspicious package was left at Forest Hills Baptist Church on Old Hickory Boulevard. Pastor Jay Hardwick stated in a Facebook Live addressed to the congregation that the church's security team noticed a suspicious package in the back parking lot before worship service began. Investigation revealed that the contents inside the package posed no security threat to the church and all items were confiscated by officers on the scene. SOURCE: 6 February 2022, WKRN News

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – Canadian Man Drives SUV Through Group of Freedom Convoy Protesters, Injuring 4

(U) Winnipeg – A Canadian man is facing criminal charges after plowing through a group of protesters taking part in the Freedom Convoy of truckers protesting the country's COVID-19 vaccine mandates Friday night. The 42yr old male is facing charges after driving through a group of protesters that were part of the Freedom Convoy at the Legislative grounds, Winnipeg Police tweeted Saturday. Four adult males were struck. In an accompanying press release, police say the driver in a Jeep Patriot plowed through the crowd and then sped off at high speeds before being chased down by police and arrested after a brief struggle. Three people sustained minor injuries that did not require medical attention and the fourth was treated in the hospital and released.

SOURCE: 6 February 2022, Fox News

(U) Democratic Republic of Congo – Several People Hurt After Bomb Explodes at Market

(U) Beni – At least four people were hurt after a bomb exploded at a busy market on Saturday, police said, days after the US embassy in the capital Kinshasa warned of a possible attack. Local police said they were looking for the suspected bomber in the region where Congolese and Ugandan forces have launched a campaign against suspected armed rebels. The US embassy in Kinshasa said on Tuesday that it believed "terrorist attacks" were planned in Beni "in the near future" and warned US citizens against travelling there. Beni has experienced several bombings in recent years that authorities have blamed on the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a Ugandan armed group that has pledged allegiance to ISIS. SOURCE: 5 February 2022, Al Jazeera

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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